



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Salt Lake Field Office
2370 South 2300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

m/003/031

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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U-72296
UT-023

JUN 02 2003

Certified Mail #7002 2030 0002 9628 9235
Return Receipt Requested

Mr. William Bown
Bonneville Quarries, Inc.
842 West 400 North
West Bountiful, UT 84087

Dear Mr. Bown:

On April 28, 2003, we received a copy of a letter that the Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (UDOGM) sent to Bonneville Quarries, Inc. (BQI) approving an Amendment to re-route roads in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 3, T. 12 N., R. 17 W. In that letter, you were informed that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) expects that previously outlined reclamation work in the Grouse Creek Mountain area would be completed before any new road construction would be authorized.

On April 16, 2003, UDOGM prepared a map which showed that since 1996, BQI has either blocked, reclaimed or has allowed to become naturally revegetated 11.58 acres of the access road acreage required to be reclaimed. An additional 4.55 acres of access roads remain to be ripped and revegetated by BQI in accordance with an agreement with UDOGM.

On October 1, 1997, the BLM issued BQI (previously operating under the name Utah Building Stone Supply) a Notice of Noncompliance for operating without a Plan of Operations or other authorization from the BLM. In addition, BQI was removing stone from talus slides on the Golden Eagle #2, Golden Eagle #4, Golden Eagle #7 and Rusty Rock mining claims for an additional 38.80 acres of surface disturbance on BLM-managed lands.

On June 21, 1999, you received notification from this office that BQI would be required to file a Plan of Operations (Plan) and post a bond for 100% of the estimated costs to reclaim the disturbed areas prior to the onset of any additional operations in the Grouse Creek area. On June 23, 1999 we received your response to our request for a Plan. In that letter, you questioned the need for BQI to specifically identify to the BLM those areas where mineral extraction activities would occur, particularly regarding the talus slides. If BQI is proposing to operate on all of the talus slides shown on UDOGM's map, the 38.80 acres must be a part of BQI's Plan. If BQI intends to operate on only a portion of the slides, then that acreage must be reflected in the Plan.

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DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

In addition to the talus slide acreage, most of the slides shown on UDOGM's map do not show a designated access route to each individual slide area. Any new proposals to construct access routes between individual talus slides, or to travel cross-country to reach each slide must also be indicated in the submitted Plan. We understand that the talus slides would not likely be reclaimed or need to be bonded, however there may be ancillary surface disturbance and/or possible erosion associated with building stone removal in those areas. Bonding would be required for any reclamation that may be identified through the preparation of the EA.

On May 20, 2003, BLM geologist Michael Ford and archaeologist Lori Hunsaker met with you to complete a cultural clearance for your proposed road construction and to discuss reclamation efforts that have been completed by BQI for the existing access road network. During that meeting, you revealed that BQI has established a palletted stone stockpile area in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 4, T. 12 N., R. 17 W. which appears to be about two acres in size, according to UDOGM's map. At least 3 disabled trucks were also found dumped in this stockpile area. Please be advised that there has been no authorization from the BLM to use this area for such stockpiling or vehicle dumping uses. A check of BLM records indicates that there are no mining or mill site claims of record on the subject lands. The use of BLM-managed lands for such purposes without proper authorization would be considered a trespass.

It is clear that BQI has been making a concerted effort to reduce the overall acreage associated with their mining operations in the Grouse Creek Mountain area. The fact remains that BQI has never submitted a complete Plan of Operations to the BLM which reflects the precise location of all building stone extraction areas so that an EA could be prepared and mining activities could be appropriately authorized and could continue in the project area.

From the April 16, 2003 map prepared by UDOGM and from what UDOGM has currently authorized, we calculate that BQI would conduct operations using approximately 2.29 acres of access roads on BLM-managed lands, assuming an 8-foot road width. During our meeting of May 20, 2003, Preston Bown of BQI stated that he would like to re-open the partially blocked access road that leads to the "south slide" area and passes through the S $\frac{1}{2}$ of Section 3, the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10 and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 11 in T. 12 N., R. 17 W. If the access road to the "south slide" area were re-opened, the total surface disturbance associated with this activity would have to be included in the submitted Plan.

It is our opinion that there is a simple solution to resolve the issues outlined above: BQI must submit a Plan of Operations which reflects their future mining and reclamation plans in the Grouse Creek Mountain area. BQI should identify all specific areas where building stone is proposed for removal from talus slides, and any other sites where new access routes or staging areas may be required to conduct operations on Public Land. In addition, within 10 days of receipt of this letter, BQI must remove all of the pallets of stone and disabled vehicles from the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 4, T. 12 N., R. 17 W. Failure to remove these items within the specified timeframe will be considered to be willful trespass.

Please provide the requested information within 30 days of receipt of this letter. The operator is not authorized to conduct any additional surface disturbance on BLM lands until a Plan of Operations has been submitted and this office has subsequently approved the operation. If you have any questions, or require additional information, please feel free to contact Michael Ford of my staff at (801) 977-4360.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Palmer", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brad D. Palmer
Assistant Field Office Manager
Non-Renewable Resources

cc: D. Wayne Hedberg
Division of Oil, Gas and Mining